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Finzel Named Founders Scholar

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Finzel Named Founders Scholar

Founders Scholars explore questions and ideas that increase knowledge of the campus mission.

Professor of Economics Bart Finzel has been named [the 8th University of Minnesota Morris Founders Scholar](#). Founders Scholars explore questions and ideas that increase knowledge of the campus mission.

“An economist with a long-evident interest in and support for the humanities, Bart fits exceptionally well the Founders Scholar criteria,” says Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Dean Janet Schrunk Ericksen. “I look forward to learning more about his project to help us understand ‘how the UMN Morris of the future may better ensure all students have the tools of liberal learning upon graduation and how we might better motivate students to pursue humanities courses by embedding practical wisdom into humanities courses.’”

Founders Scholars and Projects

Since its establishment in 1960, UMN Morris has fostered a spirit of self discovery and thoughtful inquiry. Today that spirit is celebrated through the campus’s Founders’ Fund, which supports research that increases knowledge of the campus mission.

Finzel will complete a Founders Scholar project titled “Practical Wisdom and Liberal Education.” It focuses on identifying curricular initiatives that might ensure that liberal learning is well represented in professional and pre-professional programs and that might strengthen student interest in traditional humanities offerings by wedding them more clearly to “practical wisdom.”

Education and Expertise

Finzel holds a PhD and MA from Cornell University and a BA from Valparaiso University. His expertise includes labor economics, labor relations, cooperatives, and the economics of employee participation.

Finzel has earned the UMN Morris Alumni Association Teaching Award and the Horace T. Morse-Minnesota Alumni Association Award.

About the Founders Fund

The Founders Fund was established with gifts from a private donor in honor of the founding faculty of the University of Minnesota Morris on the occasion of the campus's 40th birthday.